

Lead Scientists Report

Summary: This report covers three topics:

Science Reviews: (1) BDCP Effects Analysis Review (2) SWRCB Instream Flow Criteria Methods Review (3) SWRCB Interior Flows Workshop

Collaborative Science Activities: Progress updates on (1) Interim Science Action Agenda, (2) State of Bay-Delta Science

Science Communication: (1) San Francisco Estuary and Watershed Science Journal, (2) A summary of current numbers relevant to Delta water and environmental management.

Science Reviews

Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) Effects Analysis Review

The Delta Science Program (DSP) conducted an independent science panel review of the BDCP Effects Analysis. The public meeting was held on January 28-29, 2014 and was productive and well received. The report will be available Friday, March 21, 2014. More information can be found at: <http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/science-event/10163>.

State Water Resources Control Board Instream Flow Criteria Methods Review

This report is a review of methods to develop flow criteria for priority tributaries to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The expert panel report is posted on the Delta Science Program website. Dr. Cliff Dahm, panel chair, will present their findings and recommendations to the State Water Board on Wednesday March 19. More information can be found at: <http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/science-event/10114>.

State Water Resources Control Board Interior Flows Workshop

On April 16-17, 2014, the Delta Science Program will hold an independent science panel workshop for the State Water Resources Control Board. This workshop is focused on identifying the best available science on Delta Interior Flows and associated stressors to inform the State Water Board's decision. Both days of the event will be webcast, recorded, and will be posted on the Delta Stewardship Council Website.

Collaborative Science Activities

Progress Update on Interim Science Action Agenda

The Interim Science Action Agenda takes an initial step in implementing the Delta Science Plan. It is a shared list of near-term common priority science needs, questions, and actions from existing workplans, reviews and other documents to be addressed within a two-year time frame (targeted completion – Summer 2014). Currently, we are mining existing documents to identify common science needs, questions, and actions. We will then seek Delta science and policy community input through a range of forums, which will include a half-day workshop in early May and discussion at a Council

meeting. We encourage everyone who contributes to and uses science in the Delta to help develop the Interim Science Action Agenda. A fact sheet on the Interim Science Action Agenda was developed and is attached (Attachment 1).

Progress Update on the State of Bay-Delta Science Report

The objective of the State of the Bay-Delta Science Report is to regularly summarize and communicate current scientific knowledge to inform policy and management decisions and associated grand challenges. This includes progress made on key research questions and the identification of knowledge gaps. Work has begun on an update of the 2008 State of Bay-Delta Science report with a target for completion by early 2015. Thereafter, it will be published at least once every four years with periodic online updates as new knowledge becomes available. The State of Bay-Delta Science will be written by relevant science experts with guidance from the Science Steering Committee, and will be reviewed by the Delta Independent Science Board.

Science Communication

San Francisco Estuary and Watershed Science Journal

San Francisco Estuary and Watershed Science is an open-access, peer-reviewed, academic journal that publishes research about the science and resource management of San Francisco Bay, the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta, and the upstream watersheds. The journal is published jointly by the UC Davis, John Muir Institute of the Environment, and the Delta Stewardship Council. The March issue will be published no later than March 26. More information can be found at:
http://escholarship.org/uc/jmie_sfews.

By the Numbers

The new Sea Grant State Fellow will give a summary of current numbers related to Delta water and environmental management. The summary will inform the Council of recent counts, measurements and monitoring figures driving water and environmental management issues.

List of Attachments

Attachment 1: The Interim Science Action Agenda Fact Sheet

Attachment 2: By the Numbers Summary

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